ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

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An apparatus (200) for automatically and continuously forming envelopes (51) to contain filter bags (1) for an infusion product comprises: means (60; 129, 131) for forming the envelopes, designed to make on a web (126) of packaging material moving along a predetermined feed path (174) a longitudinal fold line delimiting two adjacent flaps (127) defining an interposed opening through which the web (126) can be laterally accessed by the filter bags (1); manipulating means (123, 148, 128) designed to receive the filter bags (1) in succession, to turn them so that they lie in substantially the same plane as the web flaps (127) and to move the filter bags (1) along a feed path (62a, 62b, 62c) having at least one end stretch (62c) that is substantially centered relative to the web flaps (127), the filter bags (1) moving along the stretch (62c) in the same direction as the paper web (126) before the manipulating means (123, 148, 128) release the filter bags (1) between the web flaps (127). [Figure 4]